

Mandated Reporter

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Mandated Reporter Overview

- Child Protective Service Law of 1975; the creation of the “Mandated Reporter”
- Mandated Reporters must immediately report abuse
- Act 126 of 2012 of Pennsylvania School Code



Who is a Mandated Reporter

- Contact with children in the course of employment
- Reasonable cause to suspect child abuse
- YOU if you suspect child abuse



Definition of Child Abuse

- Any recent act or failure to act by a perpetrator
- Causes any of the following to a child under 18:
 - non-accidental physical injury
 - non-accidental serious mental injury
 - sexual abuse
 - sexual exploitation
 - serious neglect



Possible Signs of Abuse or Neglect

Suspicious of Abuse

- Unexplained /frequent bruises
- Bone fractures
- Burns or scalding
- Welts
- Scars
- Sprains
- Internal injuries
- Abrasions
- Dislocations
- Prolonged exposure to elements
- Malnutrition

Suspicious of Neglect

- Prolonged lack of parental supervision
- Lack of essential needs
- Inadequate medical care
- Malnutrition



The Process

- Suspicion of abuse or neglect exists
- The MCIU Procedures
 - Contact Building Administrator
 - Inform your MCIU Supervisor
 - Follow MCIU's procedures & protocol first, but remember there is nothing that states that you cannot file the report or contact Childline. You are a mandated reporter.



The Process Cont.

- A call is placed to Childline
- A report of suspected child abuse (CY-47) is submitted
- County Children and Youth conduct investigation



What if I am not sure?

- The caseworker at the county will determine whether the child was abused
- Do not attempt to investigate on your own
- Do not interrogate the parents or contact the parent
- Failure to report could cost you



Any Questions?

Thank you for your time & welcome back!